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Department of State

TELEGRAM

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AM: 0820082-0282

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ACTION NEA-11

INFO OCT-00 ADS-00 AID-07 INR-10 EUR-12 SS-10 CIAE-00
DODE-00 M-01 IO-15 NSC-01 NSAE-00 MA-06 L-03
PM-09 PA-01 SAL-01 RP-10 ACDA-12 ICAE-00 SP-02
SPRS-02 /113 W

-----003112 150238Z /72

P 150216Z FEB 82
FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1341
INFO AMCONSUL KARACHI
AMCONSUL LAHORE POUCH
AMCONSUL PESHAWAR POUCH
AMEMBASSY KABUL
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY
USMISSION GENEVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 ISLAMABAD 02208

E.O. 12065: GDS 02/14/82 (HIRSCH, J.L.) OR-P
TAGS: PEPR, FR, PK, AF, SREF
SUBJECT: (C) REGIS DEBRAY'S VISIT TO PAKISTAN

REF: ISLAMABAD 1827

1. (C) - ENTIRE TEXT.

2. SUMMARY. REGIS DEBRAY'S FEBRUARY 8-12 VISIT TO PAKISTAN IS DESCRIBED BY THE FRENCH EMBASSY AS A FACT-FINDING MISSION TO HELP THE MITTERAND GOVERNMENT CONSIDER HOW BEST TO PROVIDE INCREASED HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO THE AFGHAN REFUGEES. DEBRAY HELD AN UNPUBLICIZED MEETING WITH PRESIDENT ZIA IN ADDITION TO SESSIONS WITH PAKISTANI OFFICIALS INVOLVED IN REFUGEE ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS AND REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
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AFGHAN RESISTANCE IN PESHAWAR AND ISLAMABAD. ACCORDING

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TO THE FRENCH EMBASSY. THERE WAS NO DISCUSSION WITH THE GOP ABOUT SUPPLY OF ARMS TO THE AFGHAN RESISTANCE. END SUMMARY.

3. IN FEBRUARY 14 MEETING WITH POLCOUNSELOR [REDACTED] CHARACTERIZED DEBRAY'S VISIT TO PAKISTAN AS A FOLLOW-ON TO ZIA'S TWO DAY WORKING VISIT TO PARIS LAST MONTH. THE MITTERAND GOVERNMENT, NOTWITHSTANDING ITS RESERVATIONS ABOUT ZIA'S MILITARY GOVERNMENT, RECOGNIZES THE LEADING ROLE WHICH PAKISTAN HAS TAKEN IN THE OPPOSITION TO THE SOVIET INVASION OF AFGHANISTAN AND VIEWS PAKISTAN'S SECURITY AS IMPORTANT TO THE WEST. FRENCH CONCERNS ABOUT AFGHANISTAN ARE GREATER NOW THAN THEY WERE IN THE CLOSING YEARS OF GISCARD'S GOVERNMENT. THUS, WHEN ZIA ASKED TO MEET WITH MITTERAND, THE GOP AGREED TO THE VISIT DESPITE THE SIGNIFICANT GAP BETWEEN FRENCH SOCIALISTS AND THE MARTIAL LAW GOVERNMENT. THE ZIA-MITTERAND MEETING CONSISTED OF A GENERAL EXCHANGE OF VIEWS ON THE INTERNATIONAL SITUATION, INCLUDING EXTENSIVE DISCUSSION OF THE SITUATION IN AFGHANISTAN. (

B/a 3/5

4. THE DEBRAY VISIT TO PAKISTAN IS PART OF HIS LARGER TRIP TO SOUTHEAST ASIA AND SOUTH ASIA. WHEN THE TRIP WAS FIRST CONSIDERED, THE INDIAN EMBASSY ASKED THAT NEW DELHI BE INCLUDED ON DEBRAY'S ITINERARY FOR A DISCUSSION OF KAMPUCHEA AND OTHER ISSUES. ONCE NEW DELHI WAS SCHEDULED, THE GOP DECIDED THAT IT WOULD BE ESSENTIAL ALSO TO INCLUDE PAKISTAN. DEBRAY, CONFIDENTIAL
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AS ONE OF MITTERAND'S PERSONAL ADVISORS, FOCUSES ON HUMANITARIAN ISSUES AND FRANCE'S RELATIONS WITH DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. (SAID THAT DEBRAY HAD NEVER BEEN IN PAKISTAN BEFORE AND HAD LITTLE PERSONAL KNOWLEDGE ABOUT THE AFGHAN RESISTANCE OR AFGHAN REFUGEE PROBLEMS. HIS DISCUSSIONS WERE QUITE GENERAL. THERE WAS NO DECISION AT THIS STAGE ABOUT INCREASED ASSISTANCE TO THE REFUGEES. GOP ASSISTANCE TO THE AFGHAN REFUGEES CURRENTLY IS PROVIDED THROUGH THE EC-10, BUT CONSIDERATION NOW MAY BE GIVEN TO PROVISION OF ASSISTANCE THROUGH BILATERAL

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CHANNELS.

5. DEBRAY'S MEETING WITH ZIA WAS NOT DISCLOSED TO THE, PAKISTANI PRESS. *Bla 3/5*

THE MEETING ITSELF WAS VERY CORDIAL. DEBRAY ALSO MET WITH MPA SECRETARY GENERAL SHANAWAZ, CHIEF COMMISSIONER OF AFGHAN REFUGEES, BRIGADIER AZHAR, AND THE JOINT SECRETARY STATES AND FRONTIER REGIONS DIVISION (SAFRON) COLONEL BACAR (NOT NIAZI AS REPORTED IN THE PRESS) AS WELL AS WITH UNHCR, WFP, AND RED CROSS OFFICIALS. IN HIS MEETINGS WITH AFGHAN RESISTANCE LEADERS IN PESHAWAR AND ISLAMABAD, THEY URGED FRANCE TO PROVIDE THEM WITH ARMAMENTS AND AMMUNITION. DEBRAY MADE NO UNDERTAKINGS BUT EXPRESSED FRANCE'S INTENTION TO CONTINUE THE PROVISION OF HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE.

6. AFGHANISTAN DAY. THE FRENCH EMBASSY HAD RECEIVED GENERAL INFORMATION ABOUT EC-10 PLANNING FOR AFGHANISTAN DAY, BUT HAD RECEIVED NO INSTRUCTIONS TO DISCUSS THE SUBJECT WITH PAKISTANI OFFICIALS. IT WAS HIS IMPRESSION THAT THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY DID NOT ANTICIPATE ANY PROGRAMS OR EVENTS INVOLVING PAKISTAN. *Bla 3/5-*

7. NEW FRENCH AMBASSADOR. THE NEXT FRENCH AMBASSADOR
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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 08 ISLAMABAD 02208

TO PAKISTAN IS JEAN GORI, PRESENTLY DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF
THE ASIAN DESK AT THE QUAI. HE HAS HAD EXTENSIVE
EXPERIENCE IN SOUTHEAST ASIA, PARTICULARLY CHINA,
AS WELL AS A TOUR IN BOMBAY. GORI IS EXPECTED TO ARRIVE
IN ISLAMABAD AT THE END OF FEBRUARY OR THE BEGINNING OF
MARCH. SPIERS

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